Introduction of modified excise system in the old allom.

27. *Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai (*Tovala* cum *Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) from what date the modified excise system was introduced in the old allom;

(*b*) what is the quantity fixed as Government dues per cent. of pan area per annum;

(*c*) whether they have been able to realise in full the quantity fixed as Government dues; and

(*d*) if not, will they be pleased to state the reasons?

Mr C. O. Madhavan: (*a*) Thye Pani 1107.

(*b*) 9 maunds.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) On account of the poor yield due to unusual rains during the manufacturing season.

Reduction of Government dues from the old allom.

28. *Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai*: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether it is a fact that they reduced the quantity fixed as Government dues from the old allom from 9 to 6 maunds for the year 1108; and

(*b*) the reasons for such action?

Mr. C O. Madhavan: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) As many of the licensees were not able to manufacture more than 6 maunds per cent. of pan area on account of unfavourable weather conditions.

Mr. E. P. Varghese: Sir, with your permission, I wish to make a suggestion. There are a number of questions tabled for answers by us. Both yesterday and to-day we find that question time has occupied only half an hour and only 15 questions have been answered each day. There are about 167 questions, I mean starred questions, for this session. Since on both days there was half of the time allowed for the questions left unused for that purpose, I would request that some more questions may be set apart for each day so that we may get at least answers for quite a large number of questions.

President: I fully sympathise with the honourable member who has complained about the smallness of the number of questions that were tabled for yesterday and to-day and it is equally true that, although under the Standing Orders one full hour is allotted for the purpose of asking questions and giving answers, not more than a moiety of the time was necessary in these days. I shall certainly try to impress upon the members of the Treasury Bench their obligation to supply answers to questions that have been received in time promptly and expeditiously so that the House may be kept fully engaged for the whole time that has been specified for asking

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